

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a continuation of Application No. 09/863,458 filed May 24, 2001; the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure and replace it with the following new Abstract of the Disclosure.

A plurality of shock-absorbing ribs (19) for protecting batteries are formed on an outer surface of the cover (18). The plurality of ribs (19) are arranged parallel to each other. The plurality of ribs (19) may be crossed in a lattice-like manner. Shock-absorbing projections (20) each for abutting against a fixing member (11), engaged with the battery electrode (10), are formed on an inner surface of the cover (18). The projection (20) has an annular shape, and a distal end portion of the electrode (10) is received in the projection. A gap between the projection (20) and the fixing member (11) is smaller than a gap between the electrode (10) and the cover (18). The plurality of ribs (19) and the projections (20) are disposed substantially symmetrically. The plurality of ribs (19) are interconnected by bulge portions (21).